


What is claimed is:

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1. A method of treating inflammation in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an antagonist to $\alpha E\beta 7$.
 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is an antibody.
 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the antibody is an $\alpha E\beta 7$ Mab.
 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with an inflammatory bowel disease.
 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with asthma.
 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with rheumatoid arthritis.
 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with autoimmune diseases.
 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with allergies.
 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with transplant rejection.

10. The method of claim 11 wherein the inflammation is associated with graft vs. host diseases.
11. A method of preventing inflammation in a subject, comprising, administering to the subject an antagonist to $\alpha E\beta 7$.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein the antagonist is an antibody.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the antibody is an $\alpha E\beta 7$ Mab.
14. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with an inflammatory bowel disease.
15. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with asthma.
16. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with rheumatoid arthritis.
17. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with autoimmune diseases.
18. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with allergies.
19. The method of claim 11, wherein the inflammation is associated with transplant rejection.

20. The method of claim 1, wherein the inflammation is associated with graft vs. host diseases.
21. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering another therapeutic agent.
22. The method of claim 21, wherein the other therapeutic agent is an antibody.
23. The method of claim 22, wherein the antibody is an $\alpha 4\beta 7$ Mab.
24. The method of claim 21, wherein the other therapeutic agent is a cytokine.
25. The method of claim 21, wherein the other therapeutic agent is an immunomodulatory agent.
26. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering another therapeutic agent.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein the other therapeutic agent is an antibody.
28. The method of claim 27, wherein the antibody is an $\alpha 4\beta 7$ Mab.
29. The method of claim 26, wherein the other therapeutic agent is a cytokine.
30. The method of claim 26, wherein the other therapeutic agent is an immunomodulatory agent.

31. A method of screening for a substance effective in reducing the inflammatory effects of $\alpha E\beta 7$, comprising:
- a) administering the substance to an animal having an established inflammatory disease;
 - b) assaying inflammatory tissue cells from the animal for an amount of secretion of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines, whereby a decrease in the amount of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines secreted by the inflammatory tissue cells of the animal as compared to the amount of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines secreted by inflammatory tissue cells of a control animal having an inflammatory disease and without having the substance administered indicates the substance is effective in reducing the inflammatory effect of $\alpha E\beta 7$;
 - c) evaluating the effect of the antagonist of $\alpha E\beta 7$ in reducing the adhesion/retention/influx of $\alpha E\beta 7$ + inflammatory cells into the inflammatory tissue, a reduction indicating that the antagonist is acting at the level of $\alpha E\beta 7$.
32. The method of claim 31 wherein the animal has an established inflammatory disease produced by a hapten reagent.
33. The method of claim 32 wherein the hapten reagent is a 2,4,6 trinitrophenol (TNP) conjugate of keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).
34. The method of claim 33 wherein the animal is a mouse.

35. A method of screening for a substance effective in preventing the inflammatory effects of $\alpha E\beta 7$, comprising:
- a) administering the substance to an animal susceptible to an inflammatory disease;
 - b) subjecting the animal to treatment that will induce an inflammatory response; and
 - c) assaying inflammatory tissue cells from the animal for an amount of secretion of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines, whereby a lack of increase in the amount of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines secreted by the inflammatory tissue cells of the animal as compared to an increase in the amount of proinflammatory cytokines, inflammatory cytokines or chemokines secreted by inflammatory tissue cells of a control animal having an inflammatory disease and without having the substance administered indicates the substance is effective in preventing the inflammatory disease by inhibiting the inflammatory effect of $\alpha^E\beta 7$;
 - d) evaluating the effect of the antagonist of $\alpha E\beta 7$ in reducing the adhesion/retention/influx of $\alpha E\beta 7^+$ inflammatory cells into the inflammatory tissue.
36. The method of claim 35, wherein the animal is a mouse.
37. The method of claim 36, wherein the treatment that will induce the inflammatory response is the introduction of an effective amount of a hapten reagent.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the hapten reagent is a 2,4,6-trinitrophenol(TNP) conjugate of limpet hemocyanin (KLH).
39. The method of claim 31, wherein the cytokine is IFN- γ
40. The method of claim 35, wherein the cytokine is IFN- γ .
41. A composition comprising an $\alpha E\beta 7$ antagonist and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the antagonist is not an anti- $\alpha E\beta 7$ antibody.
42. A composition comprising an $\alpha E\beta 7$ antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the carrier is not hybridoma supernatant.
43. A composition comprising an $\alpha E\beta 7$ antibody, a second anti-inflammatory agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.